

of all claims are respectfully requested in view of the proposed amendments and remarks below.

### Amendments

✓  
Please amend the above-identified application, as follows:

#### In the Claims:

Kindly amend claims 1, 14, 19, 23, 31, 34, 37 & 41 as set forth below.

1 ~~subcl~~ 1. (Amended) A method for encoding a sequence of video  
2 frames comprising for each frame of the sequence of video frames:

3 (a) encoding said frame employing at least one  
4 controllable parameter; and

5 (b) adapting said encoding (a) of said frame when said  
6 frame is a still frame, said adapting including adjusting  
7 said at least one controllable parameter employed in  
8 encoding said still frame to minimize after decoding  
9 thereof, visually perceptible pulsation artifacts between  
10 still frames of a sequence of still frames within said  
11 sequence of video frames, wherein said still frame comprises  
12 one still frame of said sequence of still frames.

1 14. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said frame  
2 comprises a plurality of macroblocks, and wherein said  
3 determining comprises determining whether said frame comprises a  
4 motion frame, and when so, said method further comprises for each  
5 of at least some macroblocks of said motion frame:

6 (i) determining whether said macroblock comprises a  
7 still macroblock;

8 (ii) encoding said macroblock employing at least one  
9 controllable parameter; and

10 (iii) adapting said encoding of said macroblock when  
11 said determining (i) determines said macroblock to be said  
12 still macroblock, said adapting including adjusting said at  
13 least one controllable parameter employed in encoding said  
14 still macroblock to minimize after decoding thereof,  
15 visually perceptible pulsation artifacts between  
16 corresponding still macroblocks of adjacent frames in said  
17 sequence of video frames.

18 19. (Amended) A method for encoding a frame of a sequence  
19 of video frames, said frame having a plurality of macroblocks,  
20 said method comprising for each of at least some macroblocks of  
21 said plurality of macroblocks:

22 (a) encoding said macroblock employing at least one  
23 controllable parameter; and

24 (b) adapting said encoding of said macroblock when  
25 said macroblock is a still macroblock, said adapting  
26 including adjusting said at least one controllable parameter  
27 employed in encoding said still macroblock to minimize after  
28 decoding thereof, visually perceptible pulsation artifacts  
29 between corresponding still macroblocks of adjacent frames  
30 in said sequence of video frames.

1 <sup>sub</sup> 23. (Amended) A system for encoding a sequence of video  
2 <sup>C3</sup> frames comprising:

3 a pre-encode processing unit, said pre-encode  
4 processing unit comprising:

5 a statistics measurement unit for use in  
6 determining whether a current frame of the sequence of  
7 frames comprises a still frame;

8 a control unit for modifying at least one  
9 controllable parameter employed in encoding said still  
10 frame to minimize after decoding thereof, visually  
11 perceptible pulsation artifacts between still frames of  
12 a sequence of still frames when said statistics  
13 measurement unit determines said current frame to  
14 comprise said still frame; and

15 an encoding engine for encoding said current frame of  
16 the sequence of video frames using the at least one  
17 controllable encode parameter set by said pre-encode  
18 processing unit.

1 31. (Amended) The system of claim 23, wherein when said  
2 current frame comprises other than said still frame, said control  
3 unit further comprises means for adapting encoding each of at  
4 least one macroblock of said current frame when said macroblock  
5 comprises a still macroblock, said means for adapting including  
6 means for adjusting said at least one controllable parameter  
7 employed in encoding said still macroblock to minimize after  
8 decoding thereof, visually perceptible pulsation artifacts

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cancel.

9 between corresponding still macroblocks of adjacent frames in  
10 said sequence of video frames.

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1 sub 34. (Amended) A system for encoding a macroblock of a  
2 c4 plurality of macroblocks of a frame in a sequence of video  
3 frames, said system comprising:

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5 an encoding engine for encoding said macroblock of said  
frame using at least one controllable encode parameter; and

6 means for adapting said encoding of said macroblock  
7 when said macroblock is a still macroblock, said adapting  
8 including means for adjusting said at least one controllable  
9 parameter employed in encoding said still macroblock to  
10 minimize after decoding thereof, visually perceptible  
11 pulsation artifacts between corresponding still macroblocks  
12 of adjacent frames in said sequence of video frames.

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1 sub 37. (Amended) A computer program product comprising a  
2 c5 computer usable medium having computer readable program code  
3 cmt means therein for use in encoding a sequence of video frames,  
4 said computer readable program code means in said computer  
5 program product comprising for each frame of the sequence of  
6 video frames:

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7 computer readable program code means for causing a  
8 computer to affect determining whether said frame comprises  
9 a still frame;

10 computer readable program code means for causing a  
11 computer to affect encoding said frame employing at least  
12 one controllable encode parameter; and

13 computer readable program code means for causing a  
14 computer to affect adapting said encoding of said frame when  
15 said determining determines said frame to be said still  
16 frame, said adapting including adjusting said at least one  
17 controllable parameter employed in encoding said still frame  
18 to minimize after decoding thereof, visually perceptible  
19 pulsation artifacts between still frames of a sequence of  
20 still frames within said sequence of video frames, wherein  
21 said still frame comprises one still frame of said sequence  
22 of still frames.

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1 41. (Amended) The computer readable program code means of  
2 claim 37, wherein said frame comprises a plurality of  
3 macroblocks, and wherein said computer readable program code  
4 means for causing a computer to affect determining comprises  
5 computer readable program code means for causing a computer to  
6 affect determining whether said frame comprises a motion frame,  
7 and when so, said computer readable program code means further  
8 comprises for each of at least some macroblocks of said motion  
9 frame:

10 computer readable program code means for causing a  
11 computer to affect determining whether said macroblock  
12 comprises a still macroblock;

13 computer readable program code means for causing a  
14 computer to affect encoding said macroblock employing at  
15 least one controllable parameter; and

16 computer readable program code means for causing a  
17 computer to affect adapting said encoding of said macroblock  
18 when said macroblock comprises said still macroblock, said